## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 00609 250931Z ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-00 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /113 W

-----037897 252348Z /64

R 250857Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8086
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL ALGIERS 0609

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, AG, SP, SS

USMISSION GENEVA

SUBJECT: SAHARA RUFUGEES: SPANISH OFFER OF ASSISTANCE

- 1. ON FEBRUARY 22, UNHCR'S ALGIERS REPRESENTATIVE, ARNAOUT, SHOWED EMBOFF RECENT TELEX HE HAD RECEIVED FROM GENEVA TRANSMITTING PROPOSAL BY SPANISH GOVERNMENT TO CONTRIBUTE DOLS 850,000 WORTH OF COMMODITIES TO AID SAHRAOUI REFUGEES. OFFER MADE ON CONDITION THAT COMMODITIES BE PURCHASED IN SPAIN. ARNAOUT ALSO SHOWED EMBOFF COPY OF LETTER HE HAD WRITTEN TO ALGERIAN RED CRESCENT PRESIDENT BELAOUNE DESCRIBING GOS' OFFER AND REQUESTING ALGERIAN RESPONSE.
- 2. ARNAOUT NOTED THAT, ALTHOUGH THERE HAD BEEN NO OFFICIAL GOA REPLY TO HIS LETTER, INFORMAL REACTION WAS NEGATIVE. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS NOTED THAT OFFER CAME ON HEELS OF GOS RATIFICATION OF FISHING ACCORD WITH MOROCCO AND, THEREFORE, APPEARED MERELY INTENDED AS SOP TO ALGERIANS. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ALSO REACTED NEGATIVELY TO REQUIREMENT THAT COMMODITIES CONFIDENTIAL

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BE BOUGHT IN SPAIN. ARNAOUT DOUBTED THAT GOA WOULD RESPOND TO SPANISH OFFER.

3. ARNAOUT REQUESTED THAT WE TRANSMIT NEWS OF SPANISH OFFER TO DEPARTMENT AND INTERESTED ADDRESSEES BUT ASKED THAT WE NOT MENTION NEGATIVE ALGERIAN REACTION. THEREFORE, PLEASE TREAT HIS DESCRIPTION OF THIS REACTION WITH DESCRETION.HAYNES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: REFUGEES, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

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Office: ACTION HA

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Subject: SAHARA RUFUGEES: SPANISH OFFER OF ASSISTANCE

TAGS: SREF, AG, SP, SS

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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